HOUSE RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING DESIRÉ DESOTO AS THE 2018 HAWAII SCHOOL COUNSELOR OF THE YEAR AND THE 2019 NATIONAL COUNSELOR OF THE YEAR FINALIST.

WHEREAS, the American School Counselor Association supports school counselors' efforts to help students focus on academic, career, social, and emotional development so that they may achieve success in school and are prepared to lead fulfilling lives as responsible members of society; and

WHEREAS, DESIRÉ DESOTO, a graduate from Whitworth University, Chaminade University, and Walden University, has embarked on her twelfth year at Wai'anae High School; and

WHEREAS, DESIRÉ DESOTO serves as the school's counselor and has been named as a 2019 School Counselor of the Year finalist by the American School Counselor Association; and

WHEREAS, DESIRÉ DESOTO is dedicated to fighting for educational equity and opportunities for those in special education, the economically disadvantaged, minorities, first generation students, and Native Hawaiian students; and

WHEREAS, DESIRÉ DESOTO has had a critical role in implementing the Wai'anae to Whitworth 'Auwai, which is a collaborative school counselor-initiated leadership program which covers room and board, tuition, and books for a cohort of graduating seniors from public schools on the Wai'anae Coast to attend Whitworth University; and

WHEREAS, DESIRÉ DESOTO "has helped to advance school counseling and maximize the educational, academic, career, and social development of her students," according to Superintendent Christina Kishimoto; and

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WHEREAS, DESIRÉ DESOTO, in her free time, also volunteers with local organizations that offer instruction in ocean activities and teach the importance of taking care of the ocean waters and natural resources to children; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2019, that this body hereby commends, congratulates, and honors DESIRÉ DESOTO for her outstanding accomplishments and muchdeserved recognition, and extends to her its sincerest mahalo and best wishes for continued success in all future endeavors.

OFFERED BY:

MAR 2 1 2019